

## Fall Picnic

The U.S. Southern Command's Fall Picnic is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Key Biscayne's Crandon Park.

## Inside out

Pages 11-12

*Navy celebrates yet another somber birthday*

Pages 15-18

*Command focuses on youth transition*

# United in Memory

**President: sorrow has turned to resolve**



The  
**Command**  **Run**

Vol. 2 No. 10 ■ Miami ■ Oct. 26, 2001

**See pages 4-7**

Photo by Air Force  
Tech. Sgt. Cedric H. Rudisill

# 'You are the sharp sword of freedom'

By Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense

---

"On Sept. 24, the president launched the first strike in the global war against terrorism by attacking the financial foundations of terrorist operations around the globe. Today (Oct. 9, 2001), the United States launched the second.

"As the world knows, U.S. warplanes commenced Operation Enduring Freedom with raids on military targets and terrorist training camps in Afghanistan at approximately 12:30 p.m. Eastern time today. These raids were not a single



Photo by Jim Garamone

**Defense Secretary (Right) and Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, discuss damage assessments out of Afghanistan at the Pentagon Oct. 9.**

---

event or a solitary campaign, but are the first in a sustained and continu-

ous operation to destroy terrorist networks, disrupt terrorist activities

and prevent further terrorist atrocities, such as the ones that occurred in the attack on America on Tuesday, Sept. 11.

"Our purpose is to shift the balance of power from the forces of oppression to the forces of freedom. Over time, we intend to deny to terrorists the country of Afghanistan as a base of operations, provide aid to the Afghan people who are the victims of Taliban oppression, and put terrorists everywhere, and all of those who foster and facilitate them, on notice

See **Freedom**

Page 3

---

## Freedom

from Page 2

that we will root them out wherever they exist.

“As the president has said, this is not a mission we sought. Rather, it was thrust upon us. We take these actions in self-defense. We take them in deliberate response to the acts of war directed against the American people. We take them after careful planning, to identify sites where terrorists are trained, supported and harbored. To



*“You fight without pause and without complaint, on foreign seas and in dangerous skies. You voluntarily sacrifice a life of ease and the comfort of your families, so that others may enjoy blessings and benefits of liberty.”*

**Donald H. Rumsfeld**

destroy their infrastructure and suppress their ability to threaten us and others and to send a message that the friends of terrorists everywhere are at risk.

“And, we will continue, in conjunction with our friends and allies around the world, to take whatever action is

necessary to defend freedom and counter terrorist aggression.

“As the men and women of America’s armed forces, you are the sharp sword of freedom. You fight without pause and without complaint, on foreign seas and in dangerous skies. You voluntarily sacrifice a life of

ease and the comfort of your families, so that others may enjoy blessings and benefits of liberty.

“Your task will not be quick. It will not be easy. But your mission is clear, your cause is just, and the hearts and prayers of Americans and people everywhere who long for free-

dom are with you. To each of you, military and civilian, our gratitude and our prayers.

“You have the full confidence and support of President Bush, our commander-in-chief.

“You also have mine.

“We know you are ready and we know we will prevail.”

**(Donald H. Rumsfeld, Oct. 7, 2001, at the start of U.S. and coalition air attacks on Taliban-held and terrorist targets in Afghanistan.)**

# Command Run

is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the *Command Run* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or DoD. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the U.S. Southern Command Public Affairs Office. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Friday, a week before publication (the last Friday of each month). The public affairs staff reserves the right to edit all submissions to journalistic standards. All photos are official photos unless otherwise noted. Acceptance of input by the public affairs staff does not guarantee publication.

\* \* \* \* \*

Army Maj. Gen. Gary D. Speer.....*Acting Commander in Chief*  
Army Col. Ronald B. Williams.....*Director of Public Affairs*

## Editorial Staff

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts.....*Editor*  
Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello.....*Assistant editor*  
Army Sgt. Lucy J. Pabon.....*CINC photographer*

# Memorial service honors victims of Pentagon attack

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press  
Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11, 2001 — Defense Department family members were truly “United in Memory” Oct. 11 as they remembered friends and co-workers lost in the attack on the Pentagon one month ago.

For the occasion, the DoD family expanded to include the

60 innocents aboard American Airlines Flight 77 that four hijackers used as a weapon against the building.

About 25,000 people gathered to pay their respects to those lost in the attack and while the mood was somber, the determination of the audience was evident. As the com-



**United**  
*from Page 4*

bined military chorus sang “The Battle Hymn of the Republic,” the crowd spontaneously rose to its feet and held small American flags over their heads.

President Bush captured the mood. “We have come here to pay our re-

*See* **United**  
*Page 6*

**Right: Participants stand for the playing of the National Anthem at the Pentagon memorial service honoring the 189 victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the building.**



## United

*from Page 5*

spects to 125 men and women who died in the service of America," Bush said. "We also remember passengers on a hijacked plane. Those men and women, boys and girls who fell into the hands of evildoers.

"On Sept. 11, a great sorrow came to our country. And from that sorrow has come great resolve. Today, we are a nation awakened to the evil of terrorism and determined to destroy it."



Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore

**About 25,000 people attended the service Oct. 11 honoring the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack on the Pentagon.**

Bush spoke about the actions in Afghanistan. He said the United States and coalition partners are eliminating power centers of the Taliban regime.

"We gave that regime a choice, 'Turn over the terrorists or face your ruin,'" Bush said. "They chose unwisely."

He listed the steps against the ter-

rorists and said he had "one more asset in the cause: the brave men and women in the United States military."

He said the military has responded

to a great emergency with calm and courage. "Your country honors you," he said.

Bush committed to repairing the Pentagon and to destroying the terrorist networks.

"The wound to this building will not be forgotten, but it will be repaired," he said. "Brick-by-brick we will quickly rebuild the Pentagon."

The president also promised the military everything it will need to fight the war against terrorism. "In the mis-

See **United**  
**Page 7**



## United

from Page 6

sions ahead for the military, you will have everything you need: Every resource, every weapon, every means to assure full victory for the United States and the cause of freedom," he said.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld thanked all those who helped during the attack and for the thoughts, prayers and deeds since. He said Americans remember those who died in the attacks as heroes, "and we are right to do so."

He said the victims died because they were Americans. "They died, then, because of how they lived as free men and women — proud of their freedom, proud of their country and proud of their country's cause, the cause of human freedom," Rumsfeld said.

He said they also died for "the simple fact that they worked here at the Pentagon." Rumsfeld said the world sees the Pentagon as a place of power.

The building that directs the awesome military capability of

the United States of America. But it is "a might used differently than the long course of human history has known," he said.

Since the Pentagon was built in 1941, the building has headquartered efforts against two "totalitarian regimes that sought to oppress and rule other nations," Rumsfeld said. "It is no exaggeration of historical judgment to say that without this building, and those who worked here, that those two regimes would not have been stopped or thwarted

in their oppression of countless millions."

He said today others seek to oppress millions by corrupting a noble religion. "It is the will to power, the urge to dominion over others, even to taking thousands of innocent lives or more," he said. "This oppression makes the terrorist a believer, not in the theology of God, but the theology of self and in the whispered words of temptation, 'Ye shall be as gods.'"

Rumsfeld said that in targeting the Pentagon, the terrorists correctly sensed

that the opposite of all they were and stood for resided here.

"Those who work here, those who on Sept. 11 died here — whether civilian or in uniform — side-by-side they sought not to rule but to serve," he said. "They sought not to oppress, but to liberate. They worked not to take lives, but to protect them. And they tried not to pre-empt God, but to see to it his creatures lived as he intended: In the light and dignity of human freedom."

(AFPS)

# Flag at Pentagon attack site lowered, preserved

By Jim Garamone  
American Forces Press  
Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11, 2001 — The huge American flag that hung to the right of the damaged area of the Pentagon was lowered Oct. 11 and folded with full military honors.

Soldiers of A Company, 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard), lowered the colors and folded them on the helipad just in front of where hijacked airliner hit the Pentagon Sept. 11.

Before Sept. 11,



**Soldiers from A Company, 3rd Infantry (The Old Guard), remove and fold the giant garrison flag that draped the side of the Pentagon beside the impact site where terrorists crashed a hijacked airliner Sept. 11.**



the flag belonged to the U.S. Army Band and nearby Fort Myer, Va. It is a garrison flag, the largest authorized for the military.

After the attack on the Pentagon, bandsmen sent the flag to the Pentagon.

During President Bush's visit to the impact site, 3rd

Infantry soldiers and fire fighters unveiled the flag and draped it over the side of the building.

The flag had hung in place ever

since. Each night, workers illuminated it with flood lights. Today, the flag is soot-stained and ripped at one spot where it rubbed up against the building.

"This flag will never be flown again," Maj. Gen. Jim Jackson, commander of the Army Military District of Washington, said following the ceremony.

Jackson will present the flag to the Army leadership later. They will decide its ultimate destination.

(AFPS)



# **Anthrax**

## **DoD prepares to kick start vaccine production issue**

**By Gerry J. Gilmore**  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18, 2001 — DoD will look at ways to kick-start U.S. production of anthrax vaccine that, up to now, has been manufactured by just one company in Michigan, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said today.

Rumsfeld remarked to Pentagon reporters that DoD is

going to try to save its anthrax vaccine program with manufacturer BioPort. He noted that other efforts to produce anthrax vaccine for the U.S. military had “failed over a period of years.”

DoD’s business relationship with BioPort to acquire anthrax vaccine may or may not be savable, he added.

BioPort was DoD’s sole contractor for anthrax vaccine. The company has had quality control problems and hasn’t produced any vaccine for some time.

Its manufactur-



ing operations currently lack Food and Drug Administration approval.

Rumsfeld said he discussed the vaccine issue today with S.C. “Pete” Aldridge, defense undersecretary for acquisition, tech-

nology and logistics, and David S.C. Chu, defense undersecretary for personnel and readiness. He said they or their representatives will meet with Department of Health and Human Services offi-

cials to discuss the vaccine situation.

Rumsfeld said DoD would try to fashion an arrangement that would give BioPort one more chance to supply an FDA-approved anthrax vaccine.

# Argentine Army holds memorial service; foreign liaison officer shares event video



Photos by Army Sgt. Lucy J. Pabon

Col. Fernando Rivas, Argentine foreign liaison officer assigned at the U.S. Southern Command in Miami, translates portions of an Argentine Army memorial service video that were conducted in Spanish.



Members of the U.S. Southern Command watch a video Oct. 18 of a recent Argentine Army memorial service honoring the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks at the Pentagon in Washington D.C., and World Trade Center in New York.



Brig. Gen. Richard Huck, U.S. Southern Command chief of staff, thanks Rivas for sharing the memorial service video with the members of the command and for his nation's support of America in the wake of the terrorist attacks.



Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello  
**Capt. James Symonds, commanding officer, U.S. Navy Element, speaks to the all-service audience gathered at the Main Conference Room Oct. 12 to celebrate the Navy's 226th birthday.**

## Command celebrates Navy's 226th birthday

**By Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello**  
Command Run Assistant Editor

Miami — Sailors here at the U.S. Southern Command celebrated the Navy's 226<sup>th</sup> birthday Oct. 12 during a ceremony at the Main Conference Room. The event included a cake cutting ceremony featuring its youngest and oldest sailor and a brief video birthday message from Secretary of the Navy Gordon England.

Capt. James Symonds, commanding officer, U.S. Navy Element, was master of ceremony during the festivities. Last year's Navy Birthday was marred by the USS Cole bombing, while this year's Sept. 11 terrorist incident also turned the occasion into a somber one.

During the ceremony, officials spoke about the birth of the Navy, and the Chief of Naval Operations' birthday message was read to the commands sailors, followed by a commemorative birthday cake cutting by Seaman Gary Shields, the youngest sailor of the command, and Capt. Gre-

**See Birthday**  
**Page 12**



## Birthday

*from Page 11*

gory Ostrowsy, the oldest sailor. The festivities were not solely exclusive to Southcom's sailors, who were joined by representatives from the other branches of service to commemorate the Navy's birthday.

The Navy was born by a resolution passed by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia, Pa., on Oct. 13, 1775.

This year's Navy birthday celebration served as reminder to all of the necessity of a strong powerful Naval presence in world hotspots, particularly in light of the present military operations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello

**Seaman Gary Shields (Right), the youngest sailor of the command, and Capt. Gregory Ostrowsy, the oldest sailor, cut the Navy's birthday cake.**

# Program features hispanics that paved the way

By Navy Chief Petty Officer  
**Gabe Puello**  
Command Run Assistant Editor

---

Miami— Hispanic Americans and their contributions in the military were recognized during U.S. Southern Command's National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration Oct. 10 in the main conference room.

The theme of this year's celebration, "paving the way for future generations," recognized the achievements of Hispanics and their involvement with children in the community.

The show included a narrated slideshow featuring such notables as boxing



**Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello**  
**Col. Emilio Chaviano, U.S. Southern Command chaplain, gives the keynote address at the Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Oct. 10 at the Main Conference Room.**

---

legend Oscar De La Hoya, Marine Corps Astronaut Carlos Noriega and Ana Maria Salazar, the former

deputy assistant secretary of defense for Drug Enforcement Policy and Support.

The featured guest speaker, Col. Emilio Chaviano, U.S. Southern Command chaplain, immediately followed the slideshow presentation. He delivered a dynamic speech encompassing the events of Sept. 11, and his personal outlook on liberty and freedom as well as his experiences listening to the Voice of America broadcasts in Cuba prior to his arrival in this country.

"The Voice of America once said, to pave the way

**See Heritage**  
**Page 14**

---

## Heritage

from Page 13

for the future, we must serve America," recounted Chaviano. "Our enemies believe we lack unity because we have such diversity. They just do not understand the accent of America," he added.

"Obviously those who mastermind and execute acts of aggression against our people do not know our history...and they did not take time out of their very busy schedules to visit at least, a few of the battlefields, national



Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Gabe Puello

### Everyone enjoyed Hispanic culinary delights following the ceremony.

cemeteries and war memorials throughout the country. If they had taken the time to do that, they would have known

that previous generations of Americans paved the way for us, with their precious blood. They should know that Americans

are not afraid to fight or even to die for the land we love."

The fighting words of Chaplain Chaviano revved-up

the audience as he continued to recount some of the sacrifices made by past fellow Hispanic servicemen and women who have or are paving the way for future generations.

Chaviano reminded the listeners of the words inscribed upon the Statue of Liberty and reiterated the sentiment that "out of many, we must remain one, and be servants of the people. This Columbus Day is different, but the torch remains the same. Lets keep its light burning as we pave the way for future generations"



# School solutions

## Military families focus on youth-transition problems

By Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts,  
USAF  
Command Run Editor

MIAMI – A strong desire to help their children succeed after moving to Florida is the primary reason numerous U.S. Southern Command families joined together here at the Radisson Mart Hotel Sept. 29 to participate in a Military Family Transition Working Group on “Youth-School Transition.”

Riding an initiative by Florida Governor Jeb Bush

to assist military personnel moving into the state, this working group identified many of the problems military youths encounter when they arrive and apply for admission into elementary, middle or high schools.

The focus group divided itself up into three sections: Broward County families, Miami-Dade County families, and a youth-only group. A facilitator was assigned to each group and issues affecting military youth were then



Photos by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts

**Mike Rhodes (Right), U.S. Southern Command quality of life advisor, welcomes families to the youth-transition focus group at the Radisson Mart Hotel Sept. 29.**

identified and grouped into areas such as social and emotional issues, calendar and schedule problems, graduate requirements,

special programs, and extra curricular and enrich-

See **Transition**  
Page 16

**Transition**  
*from Page 15*

ment opportunities.

In addition, Dr. Frank Till, superintendent of Broward County schools; Mercedes Toural, associate superintendent of Miami-Dade County Schools; and Phyllis Hallberg, director of student services in Miami-Dade, were on hand to gain a better perspective of the problems facing military families, join in the dialogue, and act as subject matter experts as the focus groups framed the issues.



**Marva Creary writes down youth-transition issues on poster boards for families living in Miami-Dade County participating in a focus group at the Radisson Mart Hotel in Miami Sept. 27.**

According to life advisor, while Mike Rhodes, the command's quality of

sues brought up by each group, quite frankly the depth of

the issues discussed impressed him.

Rhodes noted some of the problems and issues highlighted by the focus groups included inconsistent interpretation of academic records and grade point average calculation and credit for students transferring to Florida schools, and having to take state tests even though similar tests were previously accomplished in other states.

Also, the groups pointed out that

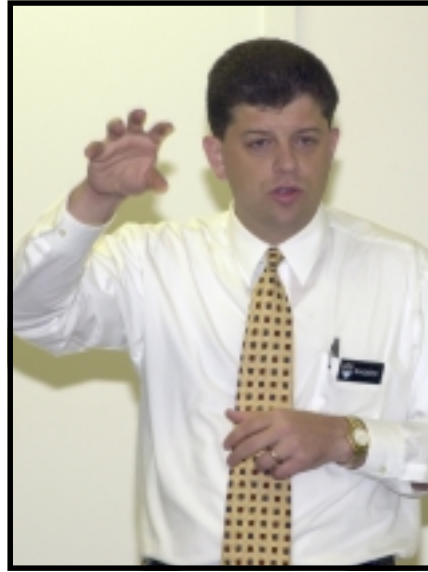
## Transition

*from Page 16*

---

many families encountered problems with registration delays and preclusions due to delayed records arrival, a lack of a permanent address while a family settles to a new location, and problems with providing a specific state form for documenting health records and shots.

Rhodes added that the focus groups also felt students should have access to counselors during the summer break. In addition, they noted there were weak school orientations and sponsorship programs, and the focus group complained about the lack of or



**Mike Rhodes stresses that the issues identified by the participants would be presented to the governor and state officials for subsequent collaborative work and resolution.**

---

inconsistent information available on the Internet for families relocating to

Florida.

Another area discussed by the focus group involved problems with students being able to get desired courses and sequencing when arriving to a new school. Apparently, parents did not think their children received enough access to advanced classes, dual credit programs, extracurricular sports and activities, or to charter schools depending on when the military family arrived to the school district.

Also, the focus group brought attention to the perception that information on procedures and unique programs often are not provided or targeted to new arrivals and their parents. The group recom-

mended schools look into a peer-counseling program, and to establish a way to mediate with the school so the student gets the needed classes when a family arrives during a school year or late in the summer.

Finally, Rhodes said, the focus groups stressed that crowded schools detract from the learning experience. They said students deserve individual attention from teachers. In addition, classes should be in a controlled environment with discipline.

Cathy Speer, wife of the acting commander in chief, attended the working group and said she was

---

**See Transition**  
**Page 18**

---



## Transition

from Page 17

impressed with how everyone brought up such emotional issues while respecting each other's views. She said the fact that Florida, and Governor Bush, are interested in hearing these concerns, coupled with the big interest of the school officials present, gave everyone a feeling that the issues would not lie dormant, that something would get done.

"The foundation that they set this morning I think will help everyone coming into the command," Speer said. "Because of the effort of these focus groups, hopefully military families won't have to face the same problems, same concerns, same issues that these parents had to."

Rhodes added that based on his previous dealings with the governor and his staff that these types of ini-

## Focus Group Participants

- Sheryl Byrd
- Marva Creary
- Guy Drab
- Victoria Dubois
- Pete Flanagan
- Kathy Huck
- Phyllis Hallberg
- Joe Napoli
- Lee Roberts
- Cathy Speer
- Jennifer Spori
- Margie Supervielle
- Dr. Frank Till
- Mercedes Toural
- Migdalia Vallellanes
- Tracy L. Williamson
- Robbin Walker
- Young White
- Rich Zimmelman

tiatives usually have positive results. "They've been very responsive and very reactive to try to make

changes," he said. "So I'm really looking forward to a lot of this. However, this is just the first step."

Collecting the information about the issues was the first phase, Rhodes explained. In the second phase, all of the issues identified here and at other military installations statewide will be presented to the governor and state officials for subsequent collaborative work toward resolutions, he said.

It is important to highlight that it took a lot of effort by these SOUTHCOM families to get the process started, Rhodes concluded.

"I think there is no question one of the preeminent, paramount and foremost issues to anyone are the things that affect our youth... our kids," he said. "I saw the interest and the deep concern people have with particular aspects of these issues. It's because our kids are what it is all about."

## News briefs

### Separating?

If you are within 180 days of separation or within one year of retirement, there is a mandatory pre-separation briefing 2:30 to 4 p.m. Nov. 28 at the Education Center at the Codina Building located at 8300 NW 33rd Street in Miami.

This briefing is a prerequisite for the four-day Transition Assistance Program workshops that are held quarterly (The next one is Jan. 28-

31). For more information, call Michela Barrow at (305) 437-2665 or 2632.

### BX shuttle

The U.S. Southern Command runs a shuttle from the Thurman Building north entrance to the Homestead Air Reserve Station BX Mart every Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. and returns when all patrons are done shopping or conducting business, which is no later than 2:30 p.m. The shuttle is for all military and civil ser-

vice personnel. Family members can also utilize the shuttle to Homestead.

### TAP workshop

The next transition assistance program workshop is Jan. 28-31, 2002 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the La Quinta Hotel, 8730 NW 27th Street. For more information or to sign up call (305) 437-2671 or 2726.

### Newcomers

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a newcomers

briefing 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 2 at the Base Operations Education Center located at the Codina Building, Suite 110, 8300 NW 33rd Street.

The briefing includes presentations from the TRICARE representative; SOUTHCOM Health Clinic; Housing Office; Traffic Management Office; Education Office; Legal Office; Quality of Life Office; Morale, Welfare, and Recreation; DoD Police; and chaplain. For more

information or to reserve your seat at the briefing, call (305) 437-2667.

### Miami tour

The Family Support Center is sponsoring its monthly Miami area tour 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Nov. 9.

The tour is free to military personnel and their families. The tour begins and ends at the Codina Building, Suite 110, at 8300 NW 33

See **Briefs**

**Page 20**

## Briefs

from Page 19

Street. For more information or to sign up for the tour, call **(305) 437-2665**.

## Finance class

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a basic personal finance class 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 21 at the Base Operations Education Center located at the Codina Building, Suite 110, 8300 NW 33rd Street.

The class covers subjects such as banking, budgeting, credit, debt reduction, mutual funds and insurance. This is an introductory class designed for junior personnel and family members. For more information or to sign up for

the class, call **(305) 437-2665**.

## Zip Code meetings

The Zip Code Coffee Groups meetings allow spouses to meet other spouses and exchange ideas, babysitters, places to go, best bargains, best doctors, and more.

Call the following coordinators to get involved:

In Kendall, Hammocks, Central Dade and South Dade, call Missy Whiddon at **(305) 971-3131** or Linda Payne at **(786) 242-9249**.

In Weston, Davie, Plantation, Fort Lauderdale, Coral Springs and North, call Harriot Johnston at **(954) 385-2296**.

In Pembroke Pines,

Cooper City, Hollywood, Miramar, call Melissa Badami at **(954) 443-7732**.

In Doral and North Dade, call Valerie Peralta at **(305) 436-8340** or Gabriela Scott at **(305) 468-8947**.

## Next tent sale

The next Defense Commissary Agency Tent Sale is planned Nov. 16 through 18 at the headquarters.

## Free admission

Active duty military, and reservists and retirees with activation orders, are receiving unlimited complimentary admission to Anheuser-Busch amusement parks until Dec. 31. In addition, immediate family members receive a

complimentary admission on the first visit. After the first visit, admission for immediate family members and guests will be discounted by 25 percent.

This offer is valid during regular park operating hours. Simply present a military ID to get admission into SeaWorld in Orlando, San Antonio or San Diego; Busch Gardens in Tampa Bay or Williamsburg; and Sesame Place in Philadelphia. This offer does not include Water Country or Discovery Cove. Anheuser-Busch Companies hope, in some small way, this begins to send the multitude of thanks to military personnel who put their lives on the line each and every day.



# HERE'S YOUR INVITATION TO ATTEND THE 226TH MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY BALL

U.S. Marine Corps Forces South cordially invites U.S. Southern Command personnel to join in observing the 226th Marine Corps Birthday at a formal dinner and birthday ball 6 p.m. Nov. 3 at the Fort Lauderdale Hilton located on Griffin Road.

Tickets cost \$41 each and include a dual-entrée dinner, dancing and ceremonial music of the Marine Corps Band New Orleans. To purchase tickets, call one of the following points of contact:

- Gunnery Sgt. William Dluhos (305) 437-1003
- Gunnery Sgt. Michael McNealy (305) 437-1613
- Gunnery Sgt. Robert Smith (305) 437-2180
- Staff Sgt. Vincent Smith (305) 437-3025

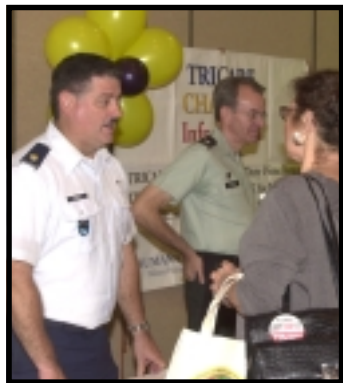
## Semper Fidelis!



# Spouse Fair shows what community has to offer



**(Above) Marva Creary shares what the Family Support Center has to offer during the Spouse Fair. (Left) Health Clinic officers address healthcare issue questions.**



More than 50 spouses and family members of military personnel took advantage of the inaugural Spouse Expo Oct. 19 at the Radisson Mart Plaza Hotel in Miami.

Officials said they were pleased with the good showing of people. More importantly, it was a great opportunity for all in attendance to receive valuable information on what the U.S. Southern Command and local community have to offer family members as they transition to

and live in South Florida. Subjects covered at the expo included budget analysis and spouse employment services, childcare and school information, parks and recreation

programs, hurricane safety, and education opportunities for spouses. In addition command officials briefed spouses on TRICARE, transportation and housing issues.



**Cathy Speer (Left) and Jennifer Harms, raffle off a free cruise, courtesy of Discovery Cruiselines, to the lucky winner -- Steve Craddock.**



**Tommy Byrd and Ana Barbosa-Zeinieh, from the U.S. Southern Command Education Center, explain what is available to interested spouses.**

## What is an Actual Expense Authorization?

**By Sgt. 1st Class Leslie Costin**  
Team DFAS Orlando Communicator

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Actual expense authorization, also known as "AEA," is an authorization to exceed the allowable per diem rate when the applicable rate is not sufficient for a particular travel assignment of special duties, or because costs for authorized items have escalated temporarily due to special or unforeseen events.

In accordance with the Joint Federal Travel Regulation, AEA may be authorized or approved for travel

that meets certain conditions if the actual and necessary expenses exceed the maximum per diem.

Notwithstanding this criteria, AEA may not be used as blanket authority to authorize or approve automatic AEA for all travel to an area where the reimbursement rate is inadequate. The actual expense authority is used only on an individual trip basis, and only after appropriate consideration is given to the facts existing in each case at the time the travel. Again, actual expense may not be used as blanket authorization, including blanket orders. If it becomes necessary to exercise this authority repetitively or on a continuing

basis in a particular area, the service or Department of Defense component concerned submits a request to the Per Diem Committee for an adjustment of the applicable per diem for the specific location.

Examples of travel that may warrant authorization or approval of AEA include but are not limited to the following:

- Traveler travels with dignitary and is required to stay in same hotel;

- Travel is to an area where applicable maximum per diem allowance is generally adequate but costs have escalated for short periods of time during special functions or events such as sporting events, world's fairs or

natural disasters;

- Based on previous situation, affordable lodgings are not available or cannot be obtained within reasonable commuting distance from duty location;

- Traveler, because of special duties of assignment, incurs unusually high expenses while conducting official business, such as to procure superior or extraordinary accommodations including a suite or other quarters for which the charge is well above normal;

- and the traveler necessarily incurs unusually high expenses incident to assignment to accompany another traveler.

*(Call LaJune Castro at Ext. 1358 for more information)*



# Honor Roll

## New sergeant majors

Congratulations to the following U.S. Southern Command Army master sergeants on their recent selection for promotion to the rank of sergeant major:

- Joe Mock, J-3
- Tony Burden, J-6
- Markham Craven, J-3
- Cliff Parker, J-2

## New Major

Congratulations to the following U.S. Southern Command Air Force captain who was recently selected for promotion to the rank of major:

- Larry Evers, J-3

## Command candidate

Congratulations to the following U.S. Southern Command Air Force major who was recently selected as a candidate to be a logistics squadron commander:

- Karn Carlson, J-4



## Top dog winner

Brig. Richard Gen. Richard Huck (Right), U.S. Southern Command chief of staff, presents Sgt. Steven Stinson, J-2 Intelligence Directorate, the "Top Dog Certificate," given for superb staff work in support of the commander in chief, during a ceremony at the Commanders in Chief Briefing Room Oct. 18.

## Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Vallellanes



**Service:** U.S. Army  
**Organization:**  
U.S. Army South liaison officer  
**Duty title:**  
Operations NCO  
**Time in service:** 17 years  
**Hometown:** Corozal, Puerto Rico  
**Hobbies:** Singing Christian salsa, family recreational activities, and playing volleyball

**Favorite duty station:** Fort Benning, Ga.

**Career highlights:** Achieving a BBA in Business Administration from the University of Puerto Rico (now working on master's degree), and becoming a member of the U.S. Army Sergeant Morales Club

## Joanne Duffy



**Service:** U.S. Army (Civil Service, GS-12)  
**Organization:** J-8 Programs and Resources Directorate  
**Duty title:** Budget analyst  
**Time in service:** 13 years  
**Hometown:** Beachwood, N.J.  
**Hobbies:** Spending time with my family

**Favorite duty station:** U.S. Southern Command  
**Career highlights:** Being named Department of the Army Intern of the Year for the Communications Electronics Command in 1997

## ***Combined Federal Campaign kicks off***

**Maj. Gen. Gary Speer, U.S. Southern Command acting commander in chief, encouraged personnel to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign during a kick-off ceremony Oct. 4 at the Main Conference Room.**

**The general asked key workers to personally contact every member of the command to give them a better understanding of how they can help the many worthy charities. Speer announced the command's goal this year is \$50,000.  
(Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts)**

